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NASIS

NEBRASKA ANNUAL SOCIAL INDICATORS SURVEY

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NASIS-87, #7

HIGH SCHOOL PREGNANCY PREVENTION CLINICS

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Price: $ .50

The Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey

David R. Johnson and Alan Booth, 1987 Study Co-Directors

The findings in this report are based on data collected in the Twelfth Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey (NASIS). This survey is part of an on-going study of the quality of life in Nebraska conducted by the Bureau of Sociological Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

In the Fall of 1987, a representative sample of 1882 Nebraskans eighteen years of age or older living in households was interviewed by telephone. The respondents were selected using a random digit telephone sampling design. The interview averaged approximately 30 minutes and included questions about work, recreation, attitudes towards public services, taxes, and political and social issues. Other items included in the survey measured the quality of life in the state. For the entire sample, 95 out of 100 times the percentages computed from the items asked on the survey are likely to be accurate to within plus or minus 2.3 percent of the figure that would have been obtained if each adult in Nebraska had been surveyed. This is an estimate of maximum error and for most items the percentages are likely to be even more accurate.

The data gathered by NASIS are used by a wide variety of state and local government agencies for policy and program planning and by faculty and students at the University of Nebraska and other colleges for research and training. No information identifying any respondent is released to any users and the strict confidentiality of individual respondents is rigidly enforced. While the final responsibility for the organisation and structure of the survey and for reports produced rests with the Bureau of Sociological Research, public agencies and university departments play an integral part in planning the survey through an Advisory Committee. Public organisations interested in membership on the Advisory Committee should contact the NASIS Study Directors.

Funding for NASIS comes from the University of Nebraska, the Bureau of Sociological Research, and state and local agencies which buy items and data analysis from the survey.

The NASIS surveys are repeated each year to measure change in the quality of life in Nebraska. While there is a core of questions which is included every year, each survey has a large component of unique items which address specific topical areas. Additional details on the NASIS surveys or questions regarding the use of the survey data or cost of purchasing items on future surveys can be obtained by contacting Alan Booth or David R. Johnson, NASIS Study Directors, at the Bureau of Sociological Research or by sending for a copy of the 1988 NASIS Prospectus.

NEBRASKANS FAVOR HIGH SCHOOL PREGNANCY PREVENTION CLINICS

It is estimated that 1 out of 10 births in the state are to teenage mothers. A bill to deal with this problem was introduced in the 1988 session. While it failed because those on both sides of the abortion issue believed the bill was not in their best interests, the legislation represented a recognition of the problem in the state. The legislation was designed to provide information on pregnancies to teenagers through the high schools.

To assess the extent to which there is public support for the proposal, a question was included in the 1987 Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey. In October and November of this year, 468 people were asked: "To help prevent teenage pregnancies, some people are proposing health clinics located in the high schools which would provide information on preventing pregnancies. Would you favor or oppose establishing such clinics in the high schools?

As the data in Table 1 shows, the majority of Nebraskans (69%) are in favor of the proposal, 28% are against it, and 3% are undecided.

Table 1. Percent Who Favor or Oppose Pregnancy Prevention Programs

	Percent	Number in Category
Favor	69	322
Oppose	28	132
Uncertain	3	13
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Total	100	468

We checked to see whether people's views differed by religious affiliation, parental status, whether the respondent had voted within the last two years, sex of the respondent, region and community size. There were no differences except with respect to community size. Those residing in communities with population of 10,000 or more favored clinics more (77%) than persons in smaller communities (66%) and in rural areas (61%).

Given the magnitude of the problem, there is strong support for establishing programs in the high schools that provide information on pregnancy prevention.

List of reports already released using data gathered in the 1987 Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey. These may be purchased at the indicated price from the Bureau of Sociological Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Report Number	Title
1	1987 NASIS Methodology Report: Study Design, Instruments, and Forms. David R. Johnson. Price: $7.50.
2	Majority Favor Higher Salaries For Legislators. Alan Booth. Price: $ .50.
3	Majority Favor Alternatives to Death Penalty. Alan Booth. Price: $1.00.
4	Support Concept of Living Wills. Alan Booth. Price: $ .50.
5	Solid Waste Disposal Site Regulation. Alan Booth. Price: $ .50.
6	Surrogate Mothering. Alan Booth. Price: $ .50.